

Senate Resolution 318

By: Senators Jones II of the 22nd, Anderson of the 43rd, Lucas of the 26th, Fort of the 39th and Thompson of the 14th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Senate Cyber Challenge Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the United States Army has announced that it is relocating its Cyber Command
3 division to Fort Gordon in Augusta, Georgia; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Georgia has created the Georgia Cyber Innovation and Training Center; and
- 5 WHEREAS, cyber attacks constitute a threat to our national security and to the security of
6 the citizens of Georgia; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the quantity and sophistication of cyber attacks have increased over the past
8 several years and are expected to continue to grow; and
- 9 WHEREAS, the cyber threat is growing due to the proliferation of sophisticated malicious
10 software tools and the adoption of new technologies that are vulnerable to cyber attacks; and
- 11 WHEREAS, to combat the threat, Georgia needs to cultivate an active and robust cyber
12 industry; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the cyber security field is a fast-growing industry employing over 75,000
14 people, an industry for which the Bureau of Labor Statistics declares the job outlook to be
15 "better than average"; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the demand for cyber security is growing at 12 times that of the overall job
17 market; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Georgia's business and overall economy is affected by the state's ability to train
19 students and workers in fast growing fields; and

20 WHEREAS, a "Cyber Challenge" is a series of online competitions in cyber security for
21 students and job-seekers, which can take many forms; and

22 WHEREAS, many other states have created "Cyber Challenges" to address the issue of cyber
23 security; and

24 WHEREAS, these statewide "Cyber Challenges" have proven to be an effective pathway for
25 students and job-seekers in states such as Maryland, Illinois, New Jersey, and others; and

26 WHEREAS, Georgia does not currently have a Cyber Challenge program and currently lags
27 behind other states in addressing the issue of cyber security; and

28 WHEREAS, there is a United States Cyber Challenge that is a national competition and
29 talent search to find and develop 10,000 cyber security specialists to help the United States
30 regain the lead in cyberspace; and

31 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia does not participate in the United States Cyber Challenges.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

33 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Cyber Challenge
34 Study Committee.

35 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members of the
36 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a
37 member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

38 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,
39 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
40 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

41 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee
42 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
43 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
44 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

45 (5) **Allowances and funding.**

46 (A) The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided
47 for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

48 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
49 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds

50 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
51 appropriated to the Senate.

52 **(6) Report.**

53 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that
54 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file a report of the
55 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to
56 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

57 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for
58 proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C)
59 of this paragraph.

60 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
61 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
62 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
63 the Secretary of the Senate.

64 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary
65 of the Senate a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

66 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2017.